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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	LEE ET AL.	Examiner:	M. THALER
Serial No.:	09/955,351	Group Art Unit:	3731
Filed:	SEPTEMBER 17, 2001	Docket:	11576.56US01
Confirmation No.:	2171	Due Date:	JULY 25, 2003
Title: STENT WITH OFFSET CELL GEOMETRY			

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 11, 2003.

By: Carla J. Mauer
Name: CARLA J. MAUER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Other: Preliminary Amendment
- ☒ Return postcard

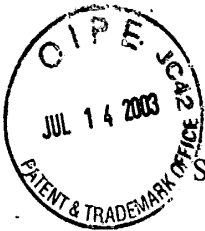
Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

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S/N 09/955,351

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Applicant: LEE ET AL. Examiner: M. THALER
Serial No.: 09/955,351 Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: SEPTEMBER 17, 2001 Docket No.: 11576.56US01
Title: STENT WITH OFFSET CELL GEOMETRY

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By: *Carla J. Mallick*
Name: CARLA J. MALICK

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please make the following amendment.

In the Claims

1. (Original) A stent comprising:

102/103
w/m
B1
a stent body expandable between an un-deployed orientation and a deployed orientation, the stent body having a longitudinal axis extending between first and second open ends;
the stent body having a plurality of adjacent circumferential support structures, the circumferential support structures being spaced- apart along the longitudinal axis;
each support structure including longitudinal struts interconnected at apex portions, the longitudinal struts and apex portions defining an undulating pattern, at least some of the apex portions of adjacent circumferential support structures being configured to longitudinally overlap one another when in the un-deployed configuration;